

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 13, 2024

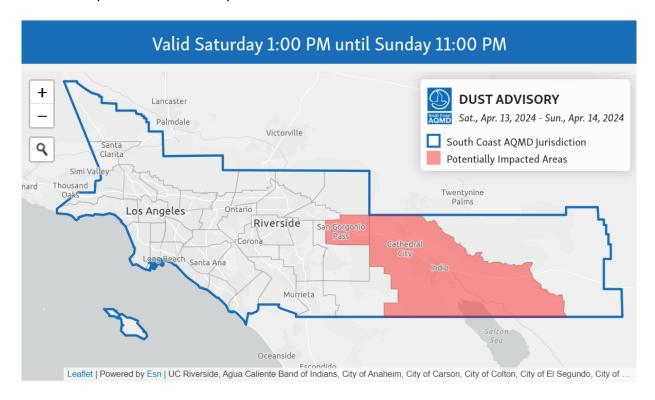
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South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley, the San Gorgonio Pass area, and Eastern Riverside County

Valid Saturday 1:00 PM until Sunday 11:00 PM



Current Conditions

Wind gusts over 30 mph on Friday evening and night resulted in periods where air quality was Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups.

To view current air quality in your neighborhood, download the <u>South Coast AQMD app</u> or visit <u>www.aqmd.gov/AQImap</u>.

Gusts up to 30 mph have been observed in the Coachella Valley today, and PM10 reached **Moderate** levels. Since stronger winds are expected through Friday night, the dust advisory issued yesterday is being extended.

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Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- Gusty winds are expected to cause periods of elevated particle pollution (PM10) levels in the San Gorgonio Pass area and the Coachella Valley from Saturday afternoon through Sunday night
- Blowing dust may result inAir Quality Index(AQI) levels that are Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or worse at times
- People spending extended periods of time outdoors may want to take precautions listed below, or wear an N95 face mask during this dust event
- High PM10 levels in the region are a result of gusty winds, which can lift dust and soil into the air
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions
- As of Saturday morning, the National Weather Service (NWS) has posted Wind Advisories for parts of the area. Visit the NWS San Diego website https://www.weather.gov/sgx/ for more information.

If you are in an area impacted by windblown dust or ash:

- Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter.
- Avoid vigorous physical activity.
- Run your air conditioning and/or an air purifier. If possible, do **not** use swamp coolers or whole house fans that bring in outside air.
- Help minimize dust pollution by stabilizing loose soils and slowing down if driving on dirt roads.

For more information, see the EPA Guide for Particle Pollution (PDF).

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter) and Instagram.